

I am writing to you concerning the proposals coming out of the "Gun Violence" Prevention Working Group. These proposed restrictions are a knee-jerk reaction to the tragic events at Sandy Hook Elementary and a shameless capitalization of this tragedy by those who have wanted to strip away the rights of law-abiding gun owners. These proposals seek to penalize law abiding citizens while ignoring the facts and realities of crime. I urge you to focus on areas that can truly have an impact on crime while not stripping away the rights of law-abiding citizens.

The events at the Sandy Hook Elementary school are as tragic as they are rare. Connecticut crime statistics show clearly how rare the use of any rifle is in crime. How possibly would suggestions like registration of firearms prevent crimes? Would someone actually choose not to commit a crime if their weapon was registered? Would criminals register guns they own illegally?

This topic is the single most important one to me in elections, and will continue to be. Like gun-owners across Connecticut and the country, I recognize these proposals for what they are, the first steps to force the attrition of legal gun ownership. I will fight these proposals, and anyone who supports them in coming elections. Please don't believe that this topic will disappear from the minds of gun owners by the time the next election rolls around.

In the wake of Sandy Hook, action is required. It makes all the more sense to strengthen the mechanism for providing data to the NCIS and state background check process. I support vigorous enforcement of the penalty for felons attempting to obtain guns. I support prosecution of those who allow or support the transfer of weapons to those who are not allowed them. I will support you and any effort to enforce existing gun laws. We have the gun laws already in place, please work to make those laws effective.